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SENATE BILL NO. 482

Offered January 9, 2008
Prefiled January 9, 2008

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 2.2-2648, 2.2-2649, and 63.2-226 of the Code of Virginia, relating to data collection; Title IV-E expenditures.

Patrons—Hanger and Howell; Delegates: Fralin and Hamilton

Referred to Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 2.2-2648, 2.2-2649, and 63.2-226 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 2.2-2648. State Executive Council for Comprehensive Services for At-Risk Youth and Families; membership; meetings; powers and duties.

A. The State Executive Council for Comprehensive Services for At-Risk Youth and Families (the Council) is established as a supervisory council, within the meaning of § 2.2-2100, in the executive branch of state government.

B. The Council shall consist of one member of the House of Delegates to be appointed by the Speaker of the House and one member of the Senate to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules; the Commissioners of Health, of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, and of Social Services; the Superintendent of Public Instruction; the Executive Secretary of the Virginia Supreme Court; the Director of the Department of Juvenile Justice; the Director of the Department of Medical Assistance Services; the chairman of the state and local advisory team established pursuant to § 2.2-5202; two local government representatives to include a member of a county board of supervisors or a city council and a county administrator or city manager, to be appointed by the Governor; a private provider representative from a facility that maintains membership in an association of providers for children's or family services and receives funding as authorized by the Comprehensive Services Act (§ 2.2-5200 et seq.), to be appointed by the Governor, who may appoint from nominees recommended by the Virginia Coalition of Private Provider Associations; and a parent representative. The parent representative shall be appointed by the Governor for a term not to exceed three years and shall not be an employee of any public or private program that serves children and families. Appointments of legislative members shall be for terms coincident with their terms of office. Legislative members shall not be included for the purposes of constituting a quorum.

C. The Council shall be chaired by the Secretary of Health and Human Resources or a designated deputy who shall be responsible for convening the council. The Council shall meet, at a minimum, quarterly, to oversee the administration of this article and make such decisions as may be necessary to carry out its purposes. Legislative members shall receive compensation as provided in § 30-19.12 and nonlegislative citizen members shall receive compensation for their services as provided in §§ 2.2-2813 and 2.2-2825.

D. The Council shall have the following powers and duties:

1. Hire and supervise a director of the Office of Comprehensive Services for At-Risk Youth and Families;

2. Appoint the members of the state and local advisory team in accordance with the requirements of § 2.2-5201;

3. Provide for the establishment of interagency programmatic and fiscal policies developed by the Office of Comprehensive Services for At-Risk Youth and Families, which support the purposes of the Comprehensive Services Act (§ 2.2-5200 et seq.), through the promulgation of regulations by the participating state boards or by administrative action, as appropriate;

4. Provide for a public participation process for programmatic and fiscal guidelines and dispute resolution procedures developed for administrative actions that support the purposes of the Comprehensive Services Act (§ 2.2-5200 et seq.). The public participation process shall include, at a minimum, 60 days of public comment and the distribution of these guidelines and procedures to all interested parties;

5. Oversee the administration of and consult with the Virginia Municipal League and the Virginia Association of Counties about state policies governing the use, distribution and monitoring of moneys in the state pool of funds and the state trust fund;

6. Provide for the administration of necessary functions that support the work of the Office of Comprehensive Services for At-Risk Youth and Families;

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7. Review and take appropriate action on issues brought before it by the Office of Comprehensive Services for At-Risk Youth and Families, Community Policy and Management Teams (CPMTs), local governments, providers and parents;

8. Advise the Governor and appropriate Cabinet Secretaries on proposed policy and operational changes that facilitate interagency service development and implementation, communication and cooperation;

9. Provide administrative support and fiscal incentives for the establishment and operation of local comprehensive service systems;

10. Oversee coordination of early intervention programs to promote comprehensive, coordinated service delivery, local interagency program management, and co-location of programs and services in communities. Early intervention programs include state programs under the administrative control of the state executive council member agencies;

11. Oversee the development and implementation of a mandatory uniform assessment instrument and process to be used by all localities to identify levels of risk of Comprehensive Services Act (CSA) youth;

12. Oversee the development and implementation of uniform guidelines to include initial intake and screening assessment, development and implementation of a plan of care, service monitoring and periodic follow-up, and the formal review of the status of the youth and the family;

13. Oversee the development and implementation of uniform guidelines for documentation for CSA-funded services;

14. Review and approve a request by a CPMT to establish a collaborative, multidisciplinary team process for referral and reviews of children and families pursuant to § 2.2-5209;

15. Oversee the development and implementation of mandatory uniform guidelines for utilization management; each locality receiving funds for activities under the Comprehensive Services Act shall have a locally determined utilization management plan following the guidelines or use of a process approved by the Council for utilization management, covering all CSA-funded services;

16. Oversee the development, implementation, and collection of uniform data collection standards, and the development of outcome measures; including, but not limited to, expenditures, number of youth served in specific CSA activities, length of stay for residents in core licensed residential facilities, and proportion of youth placed in treatment settings suggested by a uniform assessment instrument for CSA-funded services;

17. *Oversee the development and implementation of a program for the collection of data on (i) the cost of services purchased through the CSA program, (ii) treatment foster care and residential services payments made through the Medicaid program, and (iii) child-specific payments made through the Title IV-E foster care program;*

18. Establish and oversee the operation of an informal review and negotiation process with the Director of the Office of Comprehensive Services and a formal dispute resolution procedure before the State Executive Council, which include formal notice and an appeals process, should the Director or Council find, upon a formal written finding, that a CPMT failed to comply with any provision of this Act. "Formal notice" means the Director or Council provides a letter of notification, which communicates the Director's or the Council's finding, explains the effect of the finding, and describes the appeal process, to the chief administrative officer of the local government with a copy to the chair of the CPMT. The dispute resolution procedure shall also include provisions for remediation by the CPMT that shall include a plan of correction recommended by the Council and submitted to the CPMT. If the Council denies reimbursement from the state pool of funds, the Council and the locality shall develop a plan of repayment;

~~18.~~*19.* Deny state funding to a locality where the CPMT fails to provide services that comply with the Comprehensive Services Act (§ 2.2-5200 et seq.), in accordance with subdivision 17; and

~~19.~~*20.* Biennially publish and disseminate to members of the General Assembly and community policy and management teams a state progress report on comprehensive services to children, youth and families and a plan for such services for the next succeeding biennium. The state plan shall:

a. Provide a fiscal profile of current and previous years' federal and state expenditures for a comprehensive service system for children, youth and families;

b. Incorporate information and recommendations from local comprehensive service systems with responsibility for planning and delivering services to children, youth and families;

c. Identify and establish goals for comprehensive services and the estimated costs of implementing these goals, report progress toward previously identified goals and establish priorities for the coming biennium; and

d. Include such other information or recommendations as may be necessary and appropriate for the improvement and coordinated development of the state's comprehensive services system.

§ 2.2-2649. Office of Comprehensive Services for At-Risk Youth and Families established; powers and duties.

A. The Office of Comprehensive Services for At-Risk Youth and Families is hereby established to serve as the administrative entity of the Council and to ensure that the decisions of the council are implemented. The director shall be hired by and subject to the direction and supervision of the Council pursuant to § 2.2-2648.

B. The director of the Office of Comprehensive Services for At-Risk Youth and Families shall:

1. Develop and recommend to the state executive council programs and fiscal policies that promote and support cooperation and collaboration in the provision of services to troubled and at-risk youths and their families at the state and local levels;

2. Develop and recommend to the Council state interagency policies governing the use, distribution and monitoring of moneys in the state pool of funds and the state trust fund;

3. Develop and provide for the consistent oversight for program administration and compliance with state policies and procedures;

4. Provide for training and technical assistance to localities in the provision of efficient and effective services that are responsive to the strengths and needs of troubled and at-risk youths and their families;

5. Serve as liaison to the participating state agencies that administratively support the Office and that provide other necessary services;

6. Provide an informal review and negotiation process pursuant to subdivision D ~~17~~*18* of § 2.2-2648;

7. Implement, in collaboration with participating state agencies, policies, guidelines and procedures adopted by the State Executive Council;

8. Consult regularly with the Virginia Municipal League and the Virginia Association of Counties about implementation and operation of the Comprehensive Services Act (§ 2.2-5200 et seq.);

9. Hire appropriate staff as approved by the Council; and

10. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the State Executive Council.

C. The director of the Office of Comprehensive Services, in order to provide support and assistance to the Comprehensive Policy and Management Teams (CPMTs) and Family Assessment and Planning Teams (FAPTs) established pursuant to the Comprehensive Services Act for At-Risk Youth and Families (§ 2.2-5200 et seq.), shall:

1. Develop and maintain a web-based statewide automated database, with support from the Department of Information Technology or its successor agency, of the authorized vendors of the Comprehensive Services Act (CSA) services to include verification of a vendor's licensure status, a listing of each discrete CSA service offered by the vendor, and the discrete CSA service's rate determined in accordance with § 2.2-5214; and

2. Develop, in consultation with the Department of General Services, CPMTs, and vendors, a standardized purchase of services contract, which in addition to general contract provisions when utilizing state pool funds will enable localities to specify the discrete service or services they are purchasing for the specified client, the required reporting of the client's service data, including types and numbers of disabilities, mental health and mental retardation diagnoses, or delinquent behaviors for which the purchased services are intended to address, the expected outcomes resulting from these services and the performance timeframes mutually agreed to when the services are purchased.

§ 63.2-226. Duties of Department.

The Department shall assume administrative responsibilities for the statewide system. In this capacity, the Department shall establish an office to:

1. Develop a plan for the design and implementation of a statewide human services information and referral program;

2. Coordinate and supervise the implementation and operation of the information and referral program;

3. Coordinate funding for the system;

4. Select regional providers of information and referral services;

5. Supervise coordination of information management among information and referral regions across the Commonwealth;

6. Encourage effective relationships between the system and state and local agencies and public and private organizations;

7. Develop and implement a statewide publicity effort;

8. Provide training, technical assistance, research, and consultation for regional and local information and referral centers, and to localities interested in developing information and referral services;

9. Determine a core level of services to be funded from state government resources;

10. Coordinate standardization of resource data collection, maintenance and dissemination;

11. Stimulate and encourage the availability of statewide information and referral services; ~~and~~

12. Develop and implement a program for monitoring and assessing the performance and success of the information and referral program*; and*

13. Collect information on child-specific payments made through the Title IV-E foster care program

and submit information to the Office of Comprehensive Services.